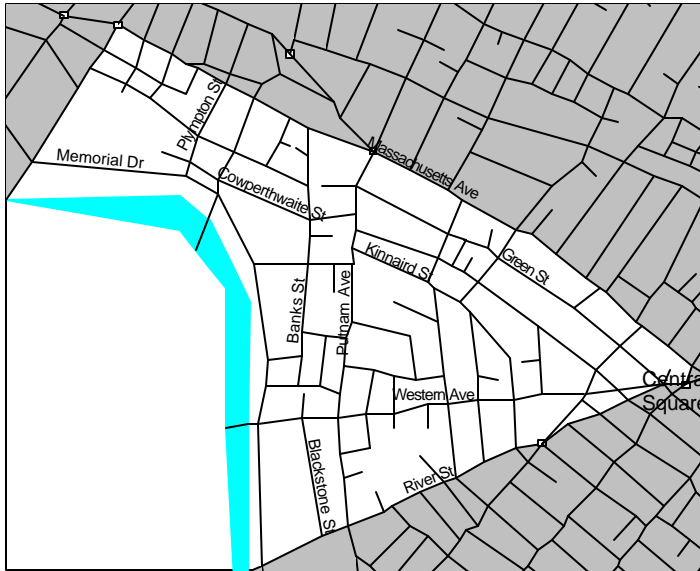
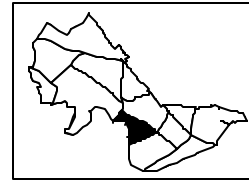


# NEIGHBORHOOD 7

## RIVERSIDE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, the Charles River, and JFK Street

**POPULATION:** 11,201 residents  
3,341 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$27,415

Neighborhood #7 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officer cars) and Cars 6R and 10R (1 officer cars). Also included within its boundaries are walking routes 7A and 7B.

### COMPARISON OF 2<sup>ND</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	7	16	22	21	13
Street Robbery	6	8	4	5	9
Auto Theft	13	12	26	18	16
Larceny from MVs	27	14	20	13	8
Malicious Destruction	38	43	47	45	39
Drug Arrests	7	3	4	11	5

### 2003 SECOND QUARTER IN REVIEW

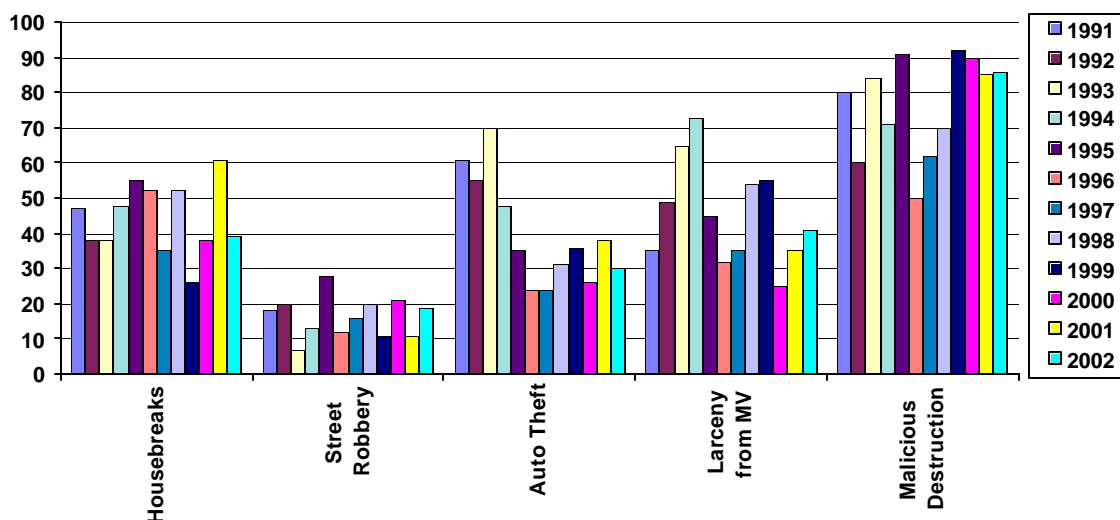
The total number of **housebreaks** reported in the Riverside neighborhood over the last five years has varied greatly. No patterns emerged from the thirteen housebreaks reported in the first half of 2003. Of the thirteen, three were attempts in which a suspect(s) cut the screen to a ground window, but was unable to gain entry through the glass window. A North Easton man was arrested in one attempt after he was seen holding a screen. When questioned he stated that he was getting his glasses and his friend told him to go through the window. In one particularly bizarre housebreak, an acquaintance of a Riverside resident broke into the resident's house and when the resident came home the acquaintance attacked her with a hatchet, stole her purse and car keys, and then fled in the resident's car. • Two of the **street robberies** reported occurred at the YMCA on Mass. Ave. A YMCA resident was arrested in January after he attempted to forcefully remove a wallet from a victim's pocket. The second street robbery at this location occurred in March when an unknown suspect grabbed a victim by the neck and demanded the victim's wallet. The victim resisted and was subsequently assaulted by the suspect, who then fled with the victim's wallet. No other patterns or repeat locations were reported. • **Larcenies from motor vehicles** declined significantly in the second quarter of 2003. Three of the incidents occurred on a Wednesday night in June on the 400 block of Franklin Street. Entry was gained by smashing a window in each incident and items taken varied greatly. • As is typical for the crime of **malicious destruction**, most of the incidents involved damage to cars. No sprees were reported in the first half of 2003. A futon business located on Mass. Ave. reported a brick thrown through the front window twice during the second quarter. • Four out of the five **drug arrests** occurred during the second quarter of 2003. In all of the arrests, drugs were found in the possession of persons arrested for other offenses. Only one arrest was of a Cambridge resident.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Riverside has the fourth highest population in the city, but it ranks well below the average for almost all index crimes. Along with its ten thousand residents, Riverside has two housing developments (Putnam Gardens and the River-Howard homes), two major parks (Hoyt Field and Riverside Press Park), and many commercial establishments along Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, and Western Avenue. Several Harvard University dormitories and other properties occupy the northwestern quarter. Riverside's borders also encompass the United States Post Office and the Cambridge Police Department headquarters.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the northwestern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on university property.*

- **Malicious destruction** is the only crime that has not shown a significant average decline in Riverside since the 1980s, though it is low compared to the rest of the city. Most of this vandalism occurs to motor vehicles. Occasional patterns of this crime over long holiday weekends have been a problem in the past.
- **Street robberies** are low for a neighborhood of Riverside's population, but they remain a pressing problem. Most of these incidents are on Western Avenue. Riverside has an exceptionally low **housebreak** rate for its size; a few clusters appear on Franklin and Kinnaird Streets, and at Putnam Gardens.
- The only neighborhoods with lower **auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles** totals have less than half of Riverside's population.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR RIVERSIDE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	83	7	43	6	8
Street Robbery	34	4	17	6	2
Auto Theft	92	9	41	9	7
Larceny from MVs	87	7	48	9	10
Malicious Destruction	78	9	74	8	7

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest